



Ministry of Agriculture and Food

**THE NATIONAL FOREST INVENTORY IN  
THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
- A RECOGNIZED NEED**

Presentation

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop  
on Forest Inventory Statistics

May 24-26, 2016 Kromeriz, Czech Republic



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1. The forests in Bulgaria (data towards 31.12.2015)
2. Why the National Forest Inventory?
3. The Plan for the NFI in Bulgaria
4. Questions and Answers



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

### 1. The forests in Bulgaria (data towards 31.12.2015)

Forest data:

4,2 M ha forest territories (about 37% of the country's territory);

Approximately 67 % broadleaved forests;

680 M m<sup>3</sup> total volume;

14.4 M m<sup>3</sup> annual increment;

3.8 m<sup>3</sup> – average annual increment per ha;

8 M m<sup>3</sup> annual harvesting (standing timber);

Third richest in biodiversity country in Europe;

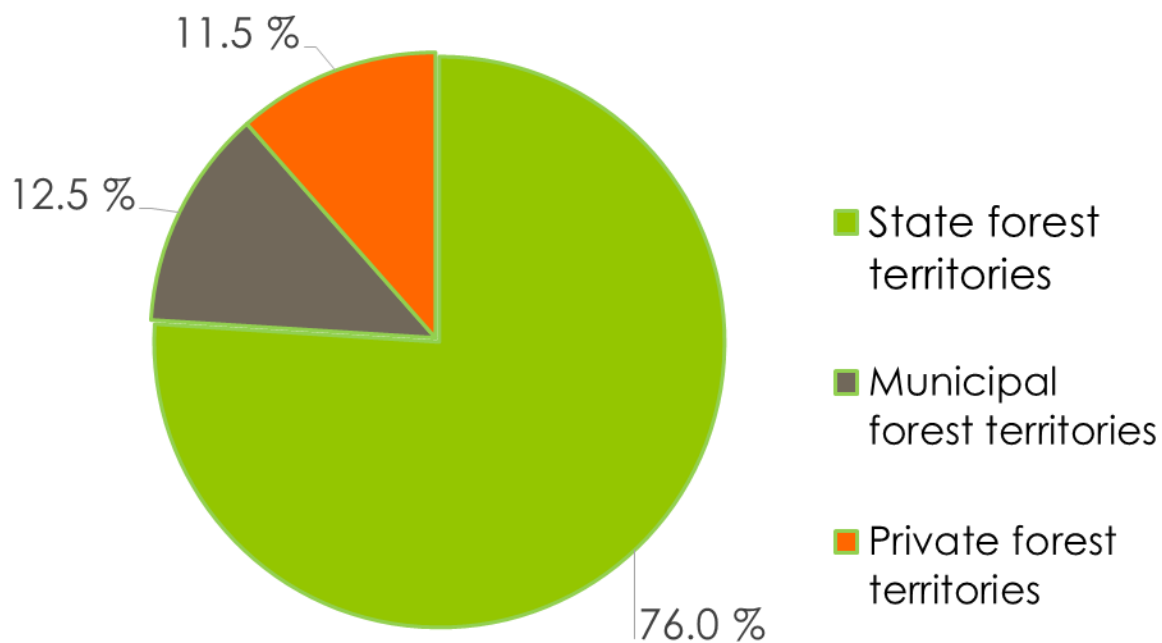
3 National parks, 11 Nature parks and more than 700 protected areas;

Regarding their functions the forests are divided as follows: protective; special and economic.



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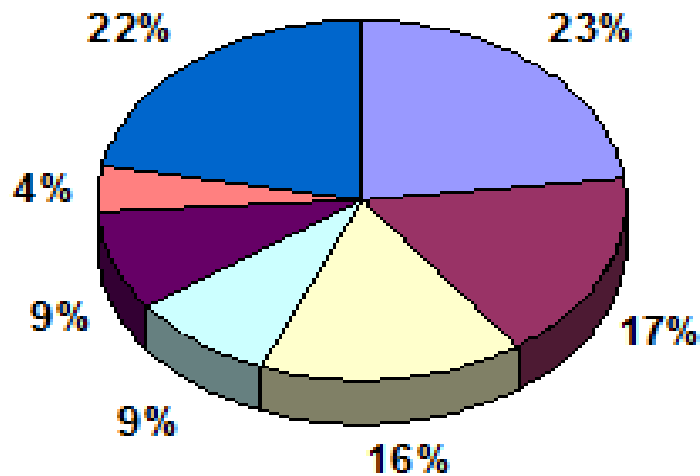
Distribution of the Forest Areas according to ownership





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**Tree species distribution:**



-  Oaks
-  Beech
-  Scotch pine
-  Turkey oak
-  Austrian pine
-  Norway spruce
-  others



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### **Bulgarian forests protect:**

- More than 80 % of the protected plants;
- More than 60 % of the protected animal species
- More than 56% of the forest territories are in NATURE 2000





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### 2. Why National Forest Inventory?

The organized work on forest inventory and forest management was initiated in 1901. During last decades the forest inventory has been conducted by forest stands on forest typological classification basis.

Annually 380 – 390 000 ha are inventoried (10% of the total forest areas). The Forest Inventory is assigned by the EFA at the expense of State Budget and performed by licensed companies after tendering. The validity of the Forest Management Plans is 10 years.

Actually, all forest areas are inventoried according to this technology and are managed in accordance with forest management plans.

Adapting the forest inventory to the changing requirements the MoAF aims:

- to improve the information about the status and dynamic of the forest resources and processes for the national forest policy and sustainable management;
- to fulfill the requirements for the implementation of national and international commitments concerning the form and accuracy of provided forest statistic data to DG Eurostat/EC, FAO/UN, Forest Europe;
- to overcome the difficulties with the access to the relevant international programs, projects and funds.



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### 3. The Plan for the NFI in Bulgaria

National Strategy for the Forestry Sector Development in the Republic of Bulgaria 2013-2020 : priority 3 - *Increasing viability and competitiveness of the Forestry sector*; measure 1: *Ensuring sustainable planning in forest areas*; activity: *Undertaking a National Forest Inventory*

Legislative basis: Forestry Act 2011 and Instruction for Inventory and Planning in Forest Territories.

Objectives:

3.1. To support the protection of the ecosystems and sustainable management of the natural resources in Bulgaria through improvement of the information about forests and forests territories;

3.2. To increase Bulgaria's capacity to collect, analyze, disseminate and utilize strategic information and documents required for the planning and development activities in forest territories;

Project partners: the MoAF, and the World Bank with advice from the WSL.





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### 3. The Plan for the NFI in Bulgaria

The National Forest Inventory is the systematic collection of data and forest information for assessment or analysis.

Project activities:

- NFI – Sampling Design, Methodology and Software Customization
- Design and delivery of the Training program for NFI;
- Undertake NFI in One Agreed pilot Region in Bulgaria;
- Preparing an analytical report with recommendations on the roll out of the NFI and outputs that could be incorporated in strategic planning.

Time frame – from 12 to 18 months



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### 4. Questions and Answers



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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

**Presented: Spas Todorov**  
**Head of Strategies and Planning in Forest Areas Department**  
**Forestry Sector Development Directorate**  
**Ministry of Agriculture and Food**  
**e: [stodorov@mzh.government.bg](mailto:stodorov@mzh.government.bg)**